



TxDOT ROW

UTILITY WEEK

THE POWER OF YOU - Delivering Right-Of-Way Solutions to Texas

Utility Week 2023

Austin, Texas



Agenda: Tuesday, December 12, 2023



Time	Topic	Speaker
9:00AM – 12:00 PM	Walk-in Registration & Badge Check-in Opens	
12:00PM – 1:30PM	<i>Break for Lunch</i>	
1:30PM – 1:45PM	Welcome & Safety Minute	Wayne Robinson Juan Barron (Safety)
1:45PM – 2:15PM	Safety Presentation	Sidney Maloy
2:15PM – 2:30PM	<i>Networking Break</i>	

Agenda: Tuesday, December 12, 2023



Time	Topic	Speaker
2:30PM – 3:00PM	Talent Acquisition & Employee Resources	Sheila Brooks, Marvin Faulcon, Angela Carrizales, Christopher Wells, Megan Zella, Jennifer Levine
3:00PM – 3:30PM	Policy Updates and Utility Coordination Informational	Wayne Robinson
3:30PM – 4:00 PM	UACV Contracting	Russell Johnson Corinna Clark
4:00PM – 4:30PM	A Guide to Utility Agreement Best Practices	Paul Fierro
4:30 PM – 4:35 PM	<i>Adjourn</i>	

Agenda: Wednesday, December 13, 2023



Time	Topic	Speaker
7:30 AM – 8:30 AM	<i>Registration Tables are Open</i>	
8:30 AM – 8:45 AM	Welcome and Safety Minute	Wayne Robinson Juan Barron (Safety)
8:45 AM – 9:15 AM	Message from TxDOT Executive Director	Marc Williams
9:15 AM – 9:30 AM	Message from TxDOT Director of Right of Way Division	Kyle Madsen
9:30 AM – 10:00 AM	Message from TXDOT Director of Transportation Programs	Charon Williams
10:00 AM – 10:30 AM	Message from TxDOT Director of Project Development	Mo Burr
10:30 AM – 11:00 AM	<i>Networking Break</i>	
11:00 AM – 12:00 PM	District Project Showcase Presentation	Leo Tovar
12:00 PM – 1:30 PM	<i>Break for Lunch</i>	

Agenda: Wednesday, December 13, 2023 – Breakout Sessions



	Track 1	Track 2	Track 3
Time	Session 1	Session 1	Session 1
1:30 PM - 2:15 PM	<p>Understanding Utility Easements</p> <p>Presenter: Daniel Ibarra – R.P.L.S./P.E.</p>	<p>Pipeline Abandonment and Removal SOP</p> <p>Presenter: Terry Dempsey</p>	<p>TxDOT State Infrastructure Bank (SIB) Loans Presenter: Dallas Teston</p> <p>State Participation 2125 (SP2125) Program Presenter: Corinna Clark</p>
2:15 PM - 2:30 PM	<i>Networking Break</i>		

Agenda: Wednesday, December 13, 2023 – Breakout Sessions



	Track 1	Track 2	Track 3
Time	Session 2	Session 2	Session 2
2:30 PM - 3:15 PM	<p>Successes and Challenges from a Large Utility's Perspective</p> <p>Oncor Presenters: Matt Reinhard and Richard Brewster</p>	<p>Final Plans Specifications and Estimates (PS&E) / Construction Management Plans (CMP's)</p> <p>Presenter: David Ramirez</p>	<p>Texas Water Development Board – Regulatory Items & Underutilized Program Information</p> <p>Presenter: Scott Galaway - TWDB Outreach</p>
3:15 PM - 3:30 PM	<i>Networking Break</i>		

Agenda: Wednesday, December 13, 2023 – Breakout Sessions



	Track 1	Track 2	Track 3
Time	Session 3	Session 3	Session 3
3:30 PM – 4:15 PM	<p>A Guide to Utility Agreement Best Practices</p> <p>Presenter: Paul Fierro</p>	<p>ROW Clearing Contracts</p> <p>Presenters: Benjamin Blackstone Tiffany Gardner</p>	<p>Direct Costs, Indirect Costs and Overhead</p> <p>Presenters: Sarah Wegenast Tammy Sanders</p>
	Adjourn		
4:30 PM - 5:30 PM	<i>After Hours Networking</i>		

Agenda: Thursday, December 14, 2023



Time	Topic	Speaker
8:30 AM – 8:45 AM	Welcome and Safety Minute	Wayne Robinson Juan Barron (Safety)
8:45 AM – 9:45 AM	Atmos Demonstration Indoor	Mike Blaylock
9:45 AM – 10:00 AM	<i>Networking Break</i>	
10:00 AM – 10:20 AM	Atmos Demonstration Outdoor (Group A) Underground Facility Damage Prevention and Safety (Group B)	Mike Blaylock - (Group A) Tina Sanders - (Group B)
10:20 AM – 10:40 AM	Atmos Demonstration Outdoor (Group B) Underground Facility Damage Prevention and Safety (Group A)	Mike Blaylock - (Group B) Tina Sanders - (Group A)
10:40 AM – 11:10 AM	Digital Delivery Presentation	Jacob Tambunga
11:10 AM – 12:00 PM	RULIS – Expert Panel (Justin Braudrick, April Dow, Kelsey Peduzzi)	Donna Crowder
12:00 PM – 1:30 PM	<i>Break for Lunch</i>	

Agenda: Thursday, December 14, 2023



Time	Topic	Speaker
1:30 PM – 2:30 PM	UE Status Trends and Opportunities	Cesar Quiroga, Ph.D.
2:30 PM – 3:00 PM	ASCE 38-22 SUE Standard Updates	Wes Kaisershot, P.E.
3:00 PM – 3:15 PM	<i>Networking Break</i>	
3:15 PM – 3:45 PM	Message from TxDOT Broadband Coordinator	Cristy G. Burch
3:45 PM – 4:15 PM	Utility Coordination in Maintenance	Mark Johnson, P.E., PMP
4:15 PM – 4:30 PM	<i>Closing</i>	
4:30 PM – 4:35 PM	<i>Adjourn</i>	

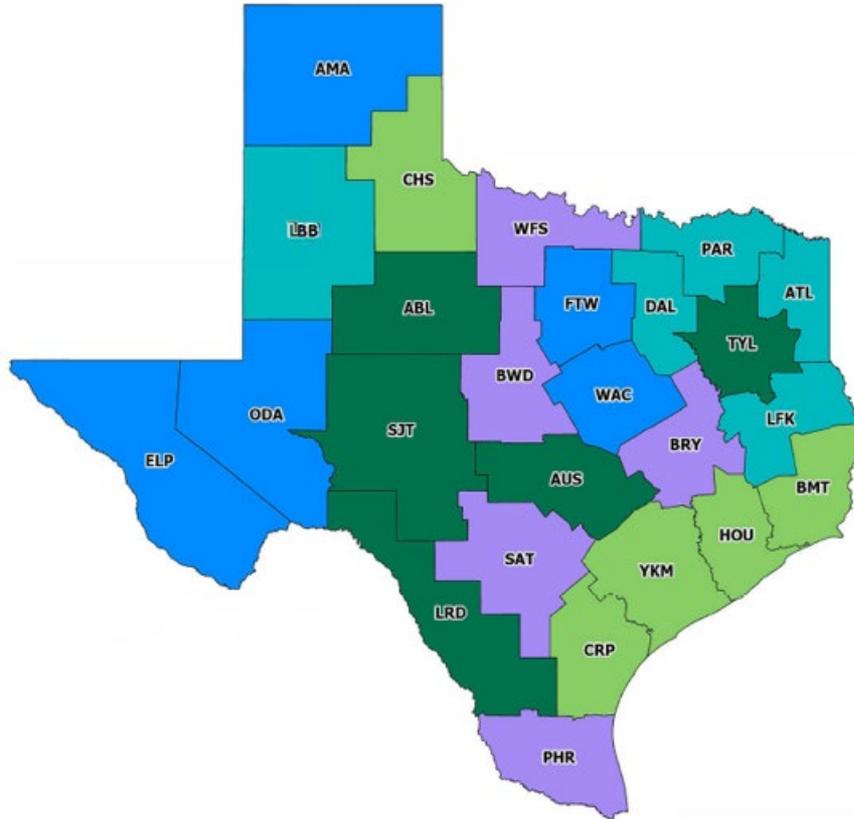
Utility Specialist District Assignments

as of 08/2023



Specialist Assignment

- Hazel Zepeda -
Hazel.Zepeda@txdot.gov
- Paul Fierro -
Paul.Fierro@txdot.gov
- Chrissy Melder -
Christina.Melder@txdot.gov
- Leo Tovar -
Leonel.Tovar@txdot.gov
- Juan Barron -
Juan.Barron@txdot.gov



District

Abilene
Amarillo
Atlanta
Austin
Beaumont
Brownwood
Bryan
Childress
Corpus Christi
Dallas
El Paso
Fort Worth
Houston
Laredo
Lubbock
Lufkin
Odessa
Paris
Pharr
San Angelo
San Antonio
Tyler
Waco
Wichita Falls
Yoakum

Specialist

Juan Barron
Paul Fierro
Chrissy Melder
Juan Barron
Leo Tovar
Hazel Zepeda
Hazel Zepeda
Leo Tovar
Leo Tovar
Chrissy Melder
Paul Fierro
Paul Fierro
Leo Tovar
Juan Barron
Chrissy Melder
Chrissy Melder
Paul Fierro
Chrissy Melder
Hazel Zepeda
Juan Barron
Hazel Zepeda
Juan Barron
Paul Fierro
Hazel Zepeda
Leo Tovar



Title

Utility Portfolio Section Director
Lead Utility Specialist
Lead Utility Portfolio Coordinator
ROW Utility Specialist
Utility Portfolio Coordinator
Utility Portfolio Coordinator
Utility Portfolio Coordinator
Utility Portfolio Coordinator
Utility Auditor
Utility Auditor

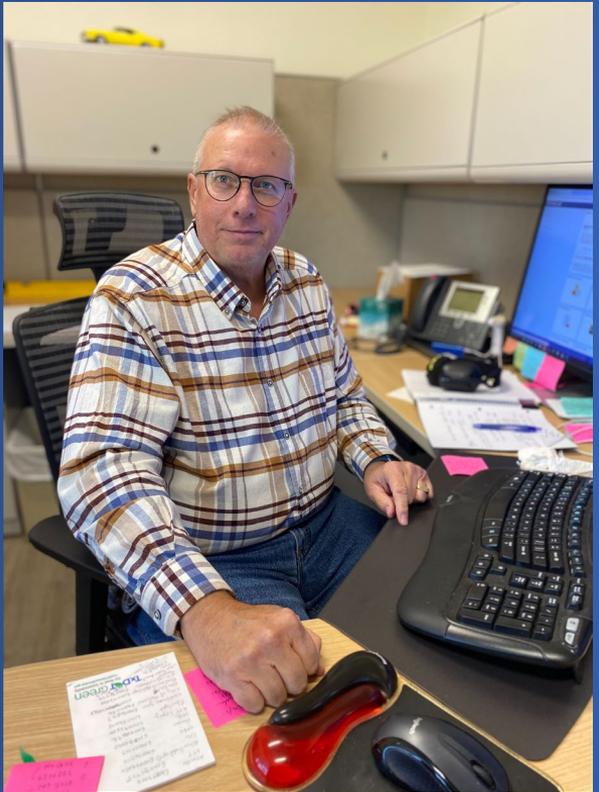
Name

Wayne Robinson
Corinna Clark
Russell Johnson
Chrissy Melder
Hazel Zepeda
Juan Barron
Leo Tovar
Mak Saeedi
Paul Fierro
April Dow
Justin Braudrick
Laura Bellard
Mary O'Con
Shereen McKenzie
Sarah Wegenast
Tammy Sanders

Email

Wayne.Robinson@txdot.gov
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Russell.Johnson@txdot.gov
Christina.Melder@txdot.gov
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Justin.Braudrick@txdot.gov
Laura.Bellard@txdot.gov
Mary.OCon@txdot.gov
Shereen.McKenzie@txdot.gov
Sarah.Wegenast@txdot.gov
Tammy.Sanders@txdot.gov

LUBBOCK



Meet the UPS Team



- Name: Paul Fierro
- Title: ROW Utility Specialist
- First position at TxDOT: Surveyor
- Years with TxDOT: 28 yrs.
- United States Marine Corps Veteran: 5 yrs.
- Fun Interesting Fact: I am third generation TxDOT, my Grandfather retired from the San Angelo District Maintenance Office with 31 yrs., My father retired from the Fort Worth District ROW/Utility Section with 32 yrs.

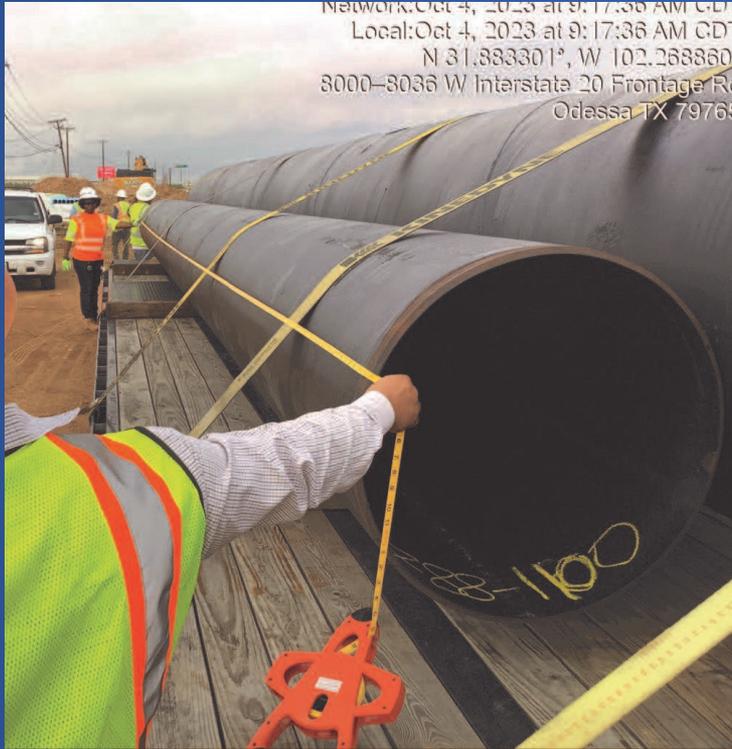


ODESSA



ODESSA

Network: Oct 4, 2023 at 9:17:36 AM CDT
Local: Oct 4, 2023 at 9:17:36 AM CDT
N 31.383301°, W 102.268860°
8000-8036 W Interstate 20 Frontage Rd
Odessa TX 79765



Meet the UPS Team



- Name: Leonel (Leo) Tovar
- Title: ROW Utility Specialist
- First position at TxDOT: Corpus Christi District UC
- Years with TxDOT: 5 yrs.
- Fun Interesting Fact: I live in Corpus Christi and love to fish the various bodies of water surrounding Corpus Christi.



ABILENE



Meet the UPS Team



- Name: Russell Johnson
- Title: Lead ROW Utility Portfolio Coordinator
- First position at TxDOT: Managing the Portfolio of the Utility Portfolio Section
- Years with TxDOT: 6 yrs.
- Fun Interesting Fact: I am a member of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity Incorporated and Ancient and Accepted Free Masons Rishon Lodge #1



SAN ANTONIO



Meet the UPS Team



- Name: April Dow
- Title: ROW Utility Portfolio Coordinator
- First position at TxDOT: Utility Permit Coordinator for the Houston District
- Years with TxDOT: almost 6 yrs.
- Fun Interesting Fact: I LOVE BLACK CATS



My Fur Baby Midnight

Meet the UPS Team



- Name: Juan Antonio Barrón
- Title: ROW Utility Specialist
- First position at TxDOT: Utility Coordinator for the Laredo District
- Years with TxDOT: 5 yrs.
- Fun Interesting Fact: I played a lot of sports as a kid and baseball was my passion back then, but bull riding became my passion when I discovered it at around 15 yrs and I started riding bulls at 17 and did it for around 15 yrs. I like fishing. Today I enjoy having a BBQ with family and friends.



SAN ANGELO



SAN ANGELO



Meet the UPS Team



- Name: Justin Braudrick
- Title: ROW Utility Portfolio Coordinator, RULIS Subject Matter Expert (SME)
- First position at TxDOT: Signal Technician for the Dallas District
- Years with TxDOT: 8 ½ yrs.
- Fun Interesting Fact: I live on a Horse Performance Ranch in Scurry, Tx. I compete in Calf Roping and Team Roping jackpots and rodeos.



AUSTIN

Austin District Utility TEAM



Meet the UPS Team



- Name: Christina (Chrissy) Melder
- Title: ROW Utility Specialist
- First position at TxDOT: Clerk I in the Atlanta District, as a High School (DECA) Student during my Senior year
- Years with TxDOT: 28 yrs.
- Fun Interesting Fact: I love to spend time with my family; love bluebonnets & hate that they don't grow very well in my little corner of Texas; and I baked and decorated specialty cakes as a hobby for over 20 years.



AMARILLO



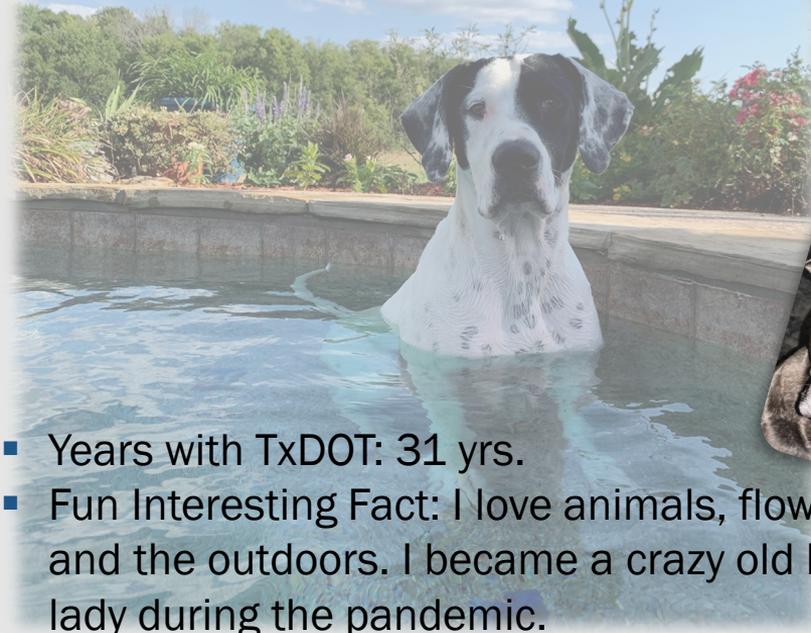
AMARILLO



Meet the UPS Team



- Name: Corinna Clark
- Title: Lead ROW Utility Specialist
- First position at TxDOT: Maint. Office Tech in the Paris District



- Years with TxDOT: 31 yrs.
- Fun Interesting Fact: I love animals, flowers, and the outdoors. I became a crazy old bird lady during the pandemic.

LAREDO



Meet the UPS Team



- Name: Tammy Sanders
- Title: Utility Auditor II
- First position at TxDOT: Construction Recordkeeper III in the Abilene District
- Years with TxDOT: 9 yrs.
- Fun Interesting Fact: I love spending time at the beach. The Maldives are on my bucket list.



ATLANTA



ATLANTA



Meet the UPS Team



- Name: Hazel Zepeda
- Title: ROW Utility Specialist
- First position at TxDOT: Pharr District Design Section
- Years with TxDOT: 22 yrs.
- Fun Interesting Fact: I like to travel with my family.



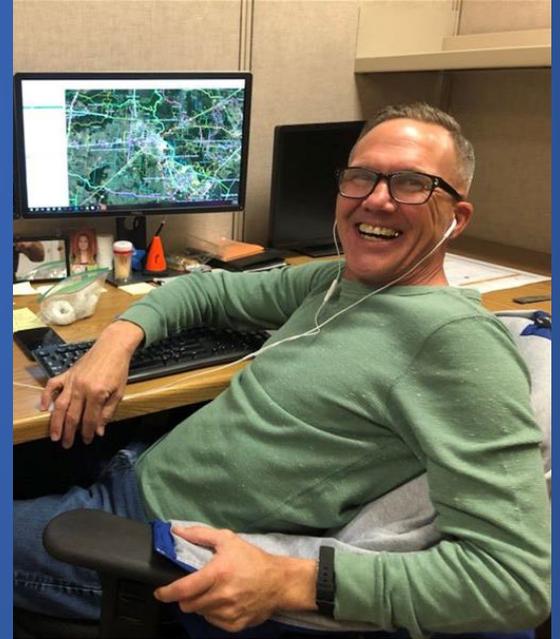
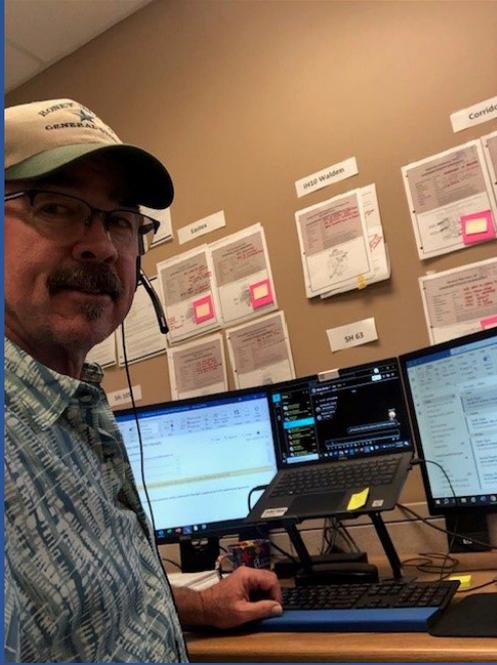
Meet the UPS Team



- Name: Mary O'Con
- Title: ROW Utility Portfolio Coordinator
- First position at TxDOT: ROW Division Utility Section
- Years with TxDOT: **1.5 days**
- Fun Interesting Fact: Has worked within the State of Texas for 17 years. Has a motorcycle license. Hobbies are yelling in the stands for my sons at the Football/Baseball games and working out to eat tacos.



BEAUMONT



BEAUMONT



Meet the UPS Team



- Name: Laura Bellard
- Title: ROW Utility Portfolio Coordinator
- First position at TxDOT: Office Manager, Beaumont District TPD
- Years with TxDOT: 8 yrs.
- Fun Interesting Fact: I have had several hobbies turn into side businesses throughout the years- videography, photography, social media promotions, and pottery painting! I enjoy traveling and spending time with my family at our camp on Lake Sam Rayburn.





- Name: Wayne Robinson
- Title: Utility Portfolio Section Director
- First position at TxDOT: ROW Agent I in the Mapping, Survey & Utility (MSU) Section in the ROW Division
- Years with TxDOT: 16 yrs.
- Fun Interesting Fact: I am a part-time farmer.



EL PASO

El Paso District Utility Coordinators

Left to right:

Reyes Hernandez, Jose Barraza,
Ruth Valles, Carlos Mendez, Ruben
Arroyo



El Paso District Utility Coordinators

Left to right:

Reyes Hernandez, Ruben Arroyo,
Ruth Valles, Carlos Mendez, Jose Barraza



EL PASO

El Paso District Utility Coordinators

Left to right:

Carlos Mendez, Jose Barraza, Ruth Valles Reyes Hernandez, Ruben Arroyo,



El Paso District Utility Permitting & Inspection Team

Left to right:

Ruth Valles, Reyes Hernandez, Ruben Arroyo, Jose Barraza



Meet the UPS Team



- Name: Shereen McKenzie
- Title: ROW Utility Portfolio Coordinator
- First position at TxDOT: ROW Division Utility Section
- Years with TxDOT: 7 months
- Fun Interesting Fact: I was born in Jamaica. I am a proud member of Delta Sigma Theta and I love to travel and attend concerts.



Meet the UPS Team



- Name: Sarah Wegenast
- Title: Utility Auditor II
- First position at TxDOT: ROW Division Utility Section
- Years with TxDOT: 1 yr.
- Fun Interesting Fact: Prior to TxDOT, I worked at Texas A&M Transportation Institute running crash tests. I enjoy time at the gym, being a mom, coffee and riding Harley's.



CORPUS CHRISTI





- Name: Mak Saeedi
- Title: ROW Utility Specialist
- First position at TxDOT: Utility Permit Coordinator in the Dallas District
- Years with TxDOT: 23 yrs.



TYLER



TYLER

